

Amendment of the Claims

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for making a prognosis of disease course in a human patient having cancer comprising detecting infiltration of a tumor by plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDC), wherein infiltration by plasmacytoid dendritic cells is prognostic of the aggressiveness and mortality of the cancer, and wherein said detecting of infiltration of a tumor by pDC comprises testing for secondary pDC markers in the circulating blood, wherein said secondary pDC markers are selected from the group consisting of type 1 IFN and MXA.

Claims 2 – 10: (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the cancer is primary breast cancer.

Claim 12 (Previously Amended): The method of claim 11, wherein the cancer is primary invasive, non-metastatic breast cancer.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The method of claim [10] 1, wherein said secondary pDC marker is type 1 IFN.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method of claim [10] 1, wherein said secondary pDC marker is MXA.